

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) An oxygen storage material comprising cerium oxide with at least one other oxide of a component selected from the group consisting of silicon and zirconium, wherein the cerium oxide and said other oxide are present in the form of a mixed oxide, produced by a process comprising first preparing a hydroxidic precursor of said mixed oxide using a wet-chemical route, drying said precursor at temperature from 80 to 300° C[[.]] with the formation of an oxide/hydroxide/carbonate dried mixture, and treating the dried mixture under a hydrogen-containing atmosphere at a temperature from 600 to 900° C[[.]] for a period of 1 to 10 hours.

Claim 2. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 1, wherein the oxide/hydroxide/carbonate mixture before thermal treatment under the hydrogen-containing atmosphere has a loss on ignition of 6 to 20 wt. % and a specific surface area of at least 140 m²/g.

Claim 3. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 2, which contains 20 to 99 wt. % cerium oxide, with respect to its total weight.

Claim 4. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 3, which contains 60 to 90 wt. % cerium oxide and 40 to 10 wt. % zirconium oxide, with respect to its total weight.

Claim 5. (currently amended) An oxygen storage material containing cerium oxide with at least one other oxide of silicon or zirconium, wherein the cerium oxide and the other oxide are present in the form of a mixed oxide, produced by a process comprising treating a pre-made oxide/hydroxide/carbonate mixture of cerium and zirconium and/or silicon with a loss on ignition of more than 6 wt. % and a specific surface area of more than 140 m²/g under a hydrogen-containing atmosphere at a temperature between 600 and 900° C[[.]]for a period of 1 to 10 hours.

Claim 6. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 1, further comprising 0.5 to 20 wt. % of at least one of the metals selected from the group consisting of yttrium, scandium, lanthanum, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium, gadolinium and terbium, calculated as oxide.

Claim 7. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 2, further comprising 0.5 to 20 wt. % of at least one of the metals selected from the group consisting of yttrium, scandium, lanthanum, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium, gadolinium and terbium, calculated as oxide.

Claim 8. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 3, further comprising 0.5 to 20 wt. % of at least one of the metals selected from the group consisting of yttrium, scandium, lanthanum, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium, gadolinium and terbium, calculated as oxide.

Claim 9. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 4, further comprising 0.5 to 20 wt. % of at least one of the metals selected from the group consisting of yttrium, scandium, lanthanum, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium, gadolinium and terbium, calculated as oxide.

Claim 10. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 5, further comprising 0.5 to 20 wt. % of at least one of the metals selected from the group consisting of yttrium, scandium, lanthanum, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium, gadolinium and terbium, calculated as oxide.

Claim 11. (original) An oxygen storage material according to claim 5, which has a specific surface area of more than 20 m²/g.

Claim 12. (original) A catalyst for the treatment of exhaust gases from internal combustion engines comprising the oxygen storage material according to claim 1.

Claim 13. (original) The treatment of exhaust gases from internal combustion engines comprising the oxygen storage material according to claim 6.

Claim 14. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 1 wherein said wet-chemical route is co-thermohydrolysis of an aqueous solution of a cerium salt and a zirconium and/or silicon salt.

Claim 15. (original) The oxygen storage material according to claim 1 wherein said wet-chemical route is coprecipitation of salts of cerium, zirconium and/or silicon from an aqueous solution in the form of hydroxides by adding a base.

Claim 16. (original) A honeycomb carrier coated with the oxygen storage material according to claim 1.

Claim 17. (original) The honeycomb carrier according to claim 16 which further contains a coating of a platinum group metal.

Claim 18. (original) A process for the purification of exhaust gases from an internal combustion engine comprising passing the said gases in contact with the honeycomb catalyst according to claim 16.

Claim 19. (currently amended) A process for preparing an oxygen storage material for use in an automobile exhaust gas purification system, comprising preparing a hydroxidic precursor of a mixed oxide of cerium and at least one of silicon or zirconium by a wet-chemical process, drying said precursors at a temperature from 80° C[[.]] to 300° C[[.]] with the formation of an oxide/hydroxide/carbonate dried mixture, treating the dried mixture under a hydrogen-containing atmosphere at a temperature from 600° C[[.]] to 900° C[[.]] for a period of 1 to 10 hours.

Claim 20. (original) The process according to claim 19 wherein said wet-chemical process is carried out by (a) co-thermohydrolysis of an aqueous solution of salts of cerium and at least one of zirconium or silicon or (b) precipitating hydroxides of cerium and at least one of zirconium or silicon from an aqueous solution of their respective salts by adding a base to said aqueous solution.

Claim 21. (new) A process for improving the oxygen storage capacity and the dynamic behavior of oxygen storage materials comprising mixed oxides of cerium oxide and zirconium oxide, wherein said oxygen storage material has a loss on ignition of more than 6 wt.-% and a specific surface area of more than 140 m²/g and wherein the process comprises heating said oxygen storage material in a reducing atmosphere at temperatures between 600 and 900 °C for a period of 1 to 10 hours.

Claim 22. (new) The process of claim 21, wherein said oxygen storage material contains 20 to 99 wt.-% of cerium oxide with respect to the total weight of said oxygen storage material.

Claim 23. (new) The process of claim 22, wherein said oxygen storage material contains 60 to 90 wt.-% of cerium oxide and 40 to 10 wt.-% of zirconium oxide with respect to its total weight.

Claim 24. (new) The process of claim 22, wherein said oxygen storage material further comprises 0.6 to 20 wt.-% of a metal oxide, wherein the metal of the metal oxide is selected from the group consisting of yttrium, scandium, lanthanum, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium, gadolinium and terbium.

Claim 25. (new) The process according to claim 21, wherein the oxygen storage material has a specific surface area of more than 20 m²/g after heating in said reducing atmosphere.